



Holy Week and Easter Worship

Palm Sunday April 2nd

9:30am Service

Maundy Thursday April 6th

2:30pm Service -Robbins Way

7:00pm Service -Faith Lilac Way

Good Friday, April 7th

3:00pm Joint Service with

First Lutheran Church of Crystal

Easter Sunday, April 9th

9:30am Service

Easter Continental Breakfast

Before and Following Worship

2023

April Banner

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org

5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Pastor Article

I'm fickle about snow. In the early days of winter I love the snow sparkling in the sunlight and hanging from the treetops. It's beautiful! And yet, I'm more than ready for it to melt – even though it is only March and we could, realistically, get even more. But right now, I'm looking forward to spring and warm weather and don't want to see another snowflake ... until next year when I will once again yearn for the beautiful flakes to cover the barren trees and ground.

I look forward and even anticipate the changing of the seasons of the church year too. Lent is a wonderful time for soup suppers and midweek services. It is a time for focusing on faith. But the season of Lent is coming to a close in April just as Spring is coming (eventually). The name Lent even anticipates the change in season since it comes from the Middle English word "*lente*" which means *springtime*.

This season leads into Holy Week. You know the story – and yet, it is important for us to hear it again, each year, just as the Israelites promised to remember and tell the story of the Passover each year. Telling the story, singing the songs, and proclaiming Christ's death for you and for me reminds each of us of the great gift of the love of God. We are reminded that Christ died – not just for the people of Israel – but for each one of us.

On Easter morning we hear the unbelievable – if not for the gift of faith – story of Jesus' resurrection from the dead and the promise of new life for us all. If we can stand, for a moment, in Mary Magdalene's shoes, we will be filled with fear and awe and at the same time overwhelmed with joy. For we learn, again, of God's great love. God's love is not fickle. God's love is everlasting.

You are invited and I hope that you will join us in person if you can – or online or via mailed bulletins -- as we tell the story of Jesus' passion and resurrection during Holy week and Easter worship. You know the story. But it is a story that never grows old. Instead, we discover new life in Christ as we sing our Alleluias and rejoice in the wonder of God's love.

Easter Blessings!

Pastor Pam

Vicar Article

Rejoicing in God's Creation!

We have finally entered into the season of Spring (even though there is still some snow on the ground!). The other day I walked outside of my front door and I could feel the sun shining on my face. Across the street I could hear birds chirping and it filled me with hope—God's Creation is beginning to come back to life after a season of rest and renewal.

Spring is probably one of my favorite seasons. I love to watch the grass begin to turn green, and I rejoice with the sight of buds beginning to grow on the trees; the blooming of new flowers and the longer daylight hours. All of it to me is a reminder of God's beautiful creation.

Sometimes I like to think of God as a sculptor or an artist. God paints the sky and sculpts the mountains and valleys. The earth is full of unique plants and animals of all kinds. There is a song I used to sing at church camp as a kid—*All of God's Critters Have a Place in the Choir—all of God's critters have a place in creation. I am in awe of God's creativity.*

During the month of April, we will be celebrating Earth Day as well as having a Blessing of the Animals on April 16th (see article below). As the seasons change let us continue to marvel at and celebrate all that God has made! Thanks be to God!

Oh Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made the all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.” (Psalm 104: 24-25, NRSV)

Vicar Joanna


What benefit do the interns receive?

I have loved my time at Faith-Lilac Way so far! As a congregation experienced with interns, FLW is encouraging and flexible as I continue to learn and develop my identity as a pastoral leader. The community at FLW is welcoming and it has been easy for me to feel that I am a part of this community. I also appreciate Pastor Pam's experience and willingness to let interns take on leadership roles, and with the support of Pastor Pam and the congregation I have been able to gain experience in areas of preaching, teaching, pastoral care, church finances and more. I have grown and become more confident in my role as a pastoral leader and I know my experiences at FLW will continue to equip me for future ministry. Thank you for supporting me and all of your previous interns, and I look forward to hearing ministry stories for your future interns as well! Thanks be to God!

Vicar Joanna Kathol

Calling All Animals and Pet Lovers!

Join us for **Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, April 16th!**

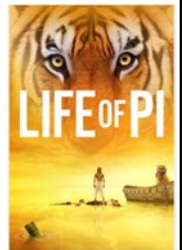
 *All God's critters have a place in the choir—some sing low, some sing high and some sing out loud sitting on the telephone wire, and some just clap their hands or paws or anything they've got now!*

As we enter into Spring and celebrate Earth Day in April, we are giving thanks for all of God's creatures, especially our furry family members and pets! On Sunday, April 16th we will have a special service of blessing for animals. All caged or leashed pets are welcome! You can also bring a picture of your pet if you would prefer. It is sure to be a fun day!



Taco and Movie Night Thursday, April 13th—Watching *The Life of Pi*!

Join us in the FLW library on Thursday, April 13th as we enjoy dinner together and settle in to watch the movie *The Life of Pi*, based on the best selling novel by Yann Martel. Here's a teaser of what it is about: A young man who survives a disaster at sea is hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery. While cast away, he forms an unexpected connection with another survivor: a fearsome Bengal tiger.



Taco bar will be ready at 6:30 PM, movie will begin at 7:00 PM. Sign up in the narthex or RSVP by **April 11th** to the church office so we can plan for food.

Pastoral Acts

Celebration of Life

- Thursday, March 23 for Bob Carlson and Craig Carlson (husband and son of Diane Carlson)
- Friday, March 24 for Barbara St. Peter (sister of Everett Love)
- Saturday, April 22 for Bev Maas

Prayers for healing

We remember in prayer those who are hurting and in need of healing: Lois Anderson, David Bjorkquist, Helen Brandon, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Linda St. John, Betty Schmidt, Edith Theilmann, Jackie Woolgar, and Vic Woolgar.

Events

Join us for Treats and Talk on Sunday Mornings!

Join us in the library after worship on Sunday mornings as we enjoy treats, community and conversation together, all are invited! See below for our conversation and activity topics in April!

April 2nd: Internship Updates Part 1 - Come and hear what our former interns are doing!

April 9th: Easter Breakfast! Come early - starting at 8:30 AM or stay after worship for scrumptious muffins, fruit and treats!

April 16th: Animal Stories in the Bible

April 23rd: Internship Updates Part II

April 30th: Pancake Breakfast/ Basket Raffle following service



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### **You are invited: Minneapolis Area Synod Worships Together**

**<https://mpls-synod.org/wp-content/uploads/Restored-2-Edited-400x398.png>** Worship on Friday evening will be held at St. Andrew

**Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie; it is open to all. Worship will be followed by a festive reception and time for fellowship at the church. Worship will also be streamed online.**

During our worship service we pause to worship God with our offerings. At this time, in support of the ministry we share, some people put in the offering plate cash or checks or envelopes. Other people give online through regular banks or other mailed in donations. Another way to give online is by using the QR code. Thank you for your support.



### ***Community Concert to benefit NAMI***

National Alliance on Mental Illness [nami.org](http://nami.org)

3:00 pm, Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church  
5929 Brooklyn Boulevard

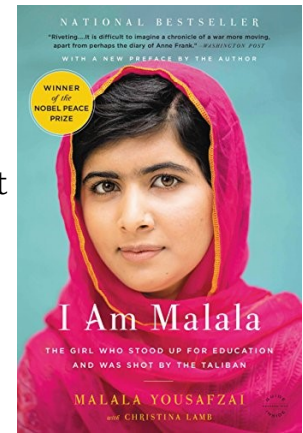
A beautiful way to enter Holy Week, please join the Wildfire congregations for a community choir performance of Théodore Dubois's *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, a cantata depicting Christ's final words from the cross. A free will offering will be taken for NAMI. Everyone is invited to this musical gift to the community.

## The Book Club is reading: *I Am Malala*

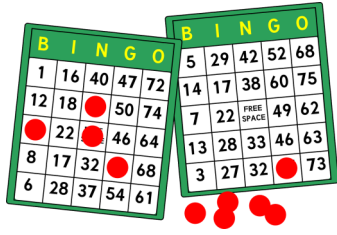
Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced when the Taliban took control of her neighborhood in Pakistan. She fought for her right to an education even after being shot in the head by the Taliban. This book tells of her remarkable journey from the school bus to becoming a Nobel prize winner. Join us!

**Daytime: Wednesday, April 19 at 2:30 PM**

**Evening: Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00 PM**



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**You are invited:**

**Robbins Way Bingo**  
Prizes and Goodies too!  
Wednesday, April 12  
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Get to know our neighbors next door at a Robbins Way Bingo Party!

Sign up to come and provide snacks and goodies!

### **Mission of the Month: Fund Our Intern!**

## **Support our Mission of Raising Up Leaders for Pastoral Ministry #14 and Counting!**

### **Why are we raising money to pay for our Vicar?**

In 2021, we fell short of budget and so we were going to cut all or part of our internship program. But... one person stepped up and gave us a challenge. That person paid the cost of the fall portion of the 2022-2023 vicar (who turned out to be Joanna!) and challenged the congregation to pay for the 2023 portion. Now is the time for us, as a congregation, and as supporters of our mission, to do our part.

### **How can we help?**

- Donate a Raffle Basket and/ or buy tickets for a Raffle basket anytime in April
- Come to the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 30 after worship
- Make a generous donation and mark it "Vicar fund".

### **Why do we have a Vicar?**

One of our missions at Faith-Lilac Way is to be a teaching congregation for Luther seminary students who are called to become pastors.

What do they do? They learn to:

- Preach and Teach God's Word
- Visit the sick and homebound
- Comfort those who mourn
- Celebrate with those who are being baptized, who are growing in faith and who are joining their lives together.
- Develop faith practices and neighboring practices for themselves and those to whom they minister

### Where are our Vicars now?

- 1) 2008-2009 – Pastor Paula Lawhead serves in Omaha, Nebraska
- 2) 2009-2010 - Pastor Miles Ruch is in Seward, Nebraska
- 3) 2010-2011 – Rev. Dr. Adam Morton is serving in Oxford, England
- 4) 2011-2012 – Pastor Ashley Updegraff is serving in Eden Prairie, MN
- 5) 2012-2013 – Pastor Durk Thompson is serving in St. Louis Park and Bloomington, MN
- 6) 2013-2014 – Pastor Adam Teske is serving in Cologne, MN
- 7) 2014-2015 – Pastor Kelly France is serving in South West MN
- 8) 2015-2016 – Katelyn Rakotoarivelo is serving a nonprofit in St. Paul, MN
- 9) 2016-2017 – Pastor James Anderson is serving in Maytown, Pennsylvania.
- 10) 2017-2018 – Joe Orner is serving in Bloomington, MN
- 11) 2019-2020 – Rebecca “Becca” Holland is serving in Eau Claire, WI
- 12) 2020-2021 – Kristin Dybdal is serving in Plymouth, MN
- 13) 2021-2022 – Kyle Anderson has recently graduated from Luther Seminary
- 14) 2022-2023 – Joanna Kathol is our current intern!
- 15) Only the Holy Spirit knows...

**Fun fact: Our first Vicar, Paula Lawhead, is the pastor of our current Vicar Joanna Kathol!**

### HOUSEHOLD HELPERS - lending a hand when you can't do it yourself!

Wish you were taller? Not climbing ladders these days? First Lutheran Church of Crystal has a pool of helpers ready to assist anyone needing a hand with household chores, and one to help with personal needs.

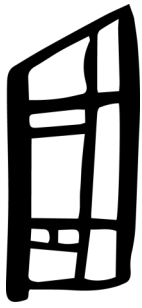
Call Jackie at 763 .535 .2797 to see if your chore fits our abilities.

### April Birthdays!



|                    |      |                  |      |
|--------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Laura Rosenberg    | 4th  | Laney Hanneman   | 18th |
| Alfonso Villagomez | 6th  | Devante Davis    | 23rd |
| Emily Wood         | 7th  | Anna Lynum       | 24th |
| Janet Osmundson    | 10th | Brenda Tiber     | 26th |
| Carla Morton       | 15th | Debra Reutiman   | 28th |
| Connie Wagener     | 15th | Madison Anderson | 30th |

We apologize if your name is missing. Please call the office, we are probably missing your birthday in our system.



Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

## 2023 April Banner

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org

5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

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### Holy Week & Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, **April 6<sup>th</sup>** 7:00pm

Good Friday, **April 7<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00pm

Easter Sunday, **April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30am with light breakfast before,  
starting at 8:30am, and after worship.



### Blessing of the Animals, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

Bring your furry family members to church for a special pet blessing as we celebrate all of God's creatures! All leashed or caged pets welcome!



### Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>

Join us for worship at 9:30am and stay afterward for a pancake breakfast! All are invited!  
Basket Raffle after service at the pancake breakfast. You won't want to miss it!